

*October 2, 2007*

Washington, D.C. – This afternoon, Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11) testified in front of the House

Rep. McNerney's bill, the National Safe Streets Gang Crime Prevention Act of 2007, H.R. 3474, would c

H.R. 3474 is being incorporated into a larger bill, H.R. 3547, The Gang Prevention, Intervention, and Sup

Today's Judiciary Committee hearing, entitled "Gang Crime Prevention and the Need to Foster Innovativ

Below is Rep. McNerney's testimony, as prepared for delivery, from the Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

Representative Jerry McNerney (CA-11)

Testimony

*Gang Crime Prevention and the Need to Foster Innovative Solutions at the Federal Level*

House Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security

October 2, 2007

Thank you Chairman Scott and Members of the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

My constituents, and individuals across the nation, are fighting to protect their communities, schools, and families.

Unfortunately, growth in gangs and gang activities shows that existing enforcement mechanisms alone are not enough.

We should provide all levels of law enforcement the necessary resources to prevent gang activity, and to protect our communities.

Gang activity does not stay neatly within one jurisdiction; it spreads across geographic boundaries. The

I have witnessed what this level of cooperation can do locally to prevent gang activity. In my district, the

It's clear: when law enforcement agencies share information and work together they can reduce gang ac

Interagency coordination is critical to preventing crimes.

That is why I introduced the Safe Streets Gang Crime Prevention Act of 2007. My bill creates a Nationa

The database will contain information on gangs, gang members, firearms, criminal activities, vehicles, and

Additionally, my bill provides funding to expand the FBI's Safe Streets Program, which conducts long-ter

This legislation will have a significant impact on reducing gang activity.

Since coming to Congress, I have seen firsthand how federal, state, and local law enforcement officers have

Yet despite some successes, gang crime still constitutes a significant threat to our nation.

In the largest city in my district, there are at least 84 gangs and hundreds more in the state of California.

Mr. Chairman, gang crime can be prevented if we work together.

I thank you again for this opportunity to testify before the Subcommittee.

